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Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire

BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
① X	GB 1 016 124 A (FIRESTONE TIRE&RUBBER CO) 5 January 1966 (1966-01-05)	1	B29C33/10 B29D30/06 B29C35/00 B28B7/00
A	* page 1, line 22 - line 49 * * figure 1 *	2-9	
② X	US 4 662 833 A (CARTER R W) 5 May 1987 (1987-05-05)	1	
A	* column 1, line 65 - column 2, line 28 * * column 2, line 48 - line 63 * * abstract; figure 1 *	2-9	
③ A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 11, 28 November 1997 (1997-11-28) -& JP 09 183124 A (BRIDGESTONE CORP), 15 July 1997 (1997-07-15) * abstract; figures 1-3 *	1-9	
④ A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 10, 31 August 1998 (1998-08-31) -& JP 10 138249 A (YOKOHAMA RUBBER CO), 26 May 1998 (1998-05-26) * abstract; figures 1-7 *	1-9	
⑤ A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 06, 30 April 1998 (1998-04-30) -& JP 10 044156 A (BRIDGESTONE CORP), 17 February 1998 (1998-02-17) * abstract; figures 1,2 *	1-9	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 3 September 2003	Examiner Brunold, A
<div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</div> <div>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</div>			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82